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October 26, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Catherine Chiccine
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd.
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
Chiccine.catherine@epa.gov

**Re: Hayford Bridge Road Groundwater Superfund Site
St. Charles, St. Charles County, Missouri**

Dear Ms. Chiccine:

The City received EPA's October 14, 2022 letter (the "**Letter**") responding to the City's request that EPA take urgent action to address the imminent and substantial endangerment of the health and welfare of the citizens of St. Charles and the environment due to the release and presence of hazardous substances at the Hayford Bridge Road Groundwater Superfund Site in St. Charles, St. Charles County, Missouri (the "**Site**"). The City continues to review EPA's Letter and will respond to the same in more detail at a later date.

In the interim, however, I am writing to clarify one of the statements in the Letter. Specifically, the City was stunned to learn that EPA believes the City has denied access to its property for purposes of additional investigation and characterization. *See* Letter, p. 1. EPA's statement is plainly false – **the City has never denied Ameren, or EPA, access to City-owned property**. Indeed, on numerous occasions, the City has requested that EPA require Ameren to conduct additional sampling of the City's wells. But, as any property owner would, the City has simply requested to be informed about the work that will be taking place on its property and to have reasonable advance notice prior to granting access. As such, since February 2022, the City has made repeated requests for Ameren and/or EPA to provide the City a work plan for its review prior to any investigative activities being performed by EPA and/or Ameren at the City's property. The City also reasonably requested that EPA and/or Ameren provide the City notification at least ten (10) business days in advance of any subsurface activities being performed on City-owned property. To date, the City has yet to receive any work plan from EPA and/or Ameren.

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EPA's statement in its Letter is a blatant mischaracterization of the facts and the City demands EPA retract its statement, in writing. The City also reiterates its request for EPA and/or Ameren to provide the City with a work plan for its review prior to EPA and/or Ameren performing any investigative activities at the City's property. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Erica M. Spitzig

EMS

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